GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3794
ANSWERED ON:24.03.2017
Depression in India
Ahlawat Smt. Santosh;Gavit Dr. Heena Vijaykumar;Jayavardhan Dr. Jayakumar;Kumar Shri Ashwini;Mahadik Shri Dhananjay Bhimrao;Rao (Avnthi) Shri Muthamsetti Srinivasa;Satav Shri Rajeev Shankarrao;Singh Shri Bharatendra;Sule Smt. Supriya Sadanand;Udhayakumar Shri M.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

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(a) whether as per World Health Organisation (WHO) data nearly 4.5 percent of the country's population suffer from depression and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has carried out any study in this regard; and

(c) if so, the corrective steps taken by the Government to reduce the number of cases of people suffering from depression in the country?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): As per the World Health Organisation's Report "Depression and Other Common Mental Disorders − Global Health Estimates" released in 2017, the estimated prevalence of depressive disorders in India is 4.5% of the total population.

(b): The Central Government conducted National Mental Health Survey through National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bangalore in 12 states of the country. As per the survey, the prevalence of depressive disorders in India is estimated to be 2.7% of the total population.

(c): To address the burden of mental disorders, the Government of India is implementing the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP) since 1982. The Government is supporting implementation of the District Mental Health Programme (DMHP) under NMHP in 339 districts of the country for detection, management and treatment of mental disorders/ illness. With the objective to address the shortage of mental health professionals in the country and to increase the PG training capacity in mental health as well as improving the tertiary care treatment facility, establishment of 21 Centres of Excellence in Mental Health and strengthening/ establishment of 39 Post Graduate training departments in mental health specialties have been funded. Besides, three Central Institutions viz. National Institute of Mental Health And Neuro Sciences, Bangalore, Lokopriya Gopinath Bordoloi Regional Institute of Mental Health, Tezpur and Central Institute of Psychiatry, Ranchi have been strengthened for augmenting human resources in the area of mental health and for capacity building in the country. The DMHP has been restructured to include additional components like suicide prevention services, work place stress management, life skills training and counselling in schools and colleges. Support is also provided for Central/ State Mental Health Authorities, Research and Training and for Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities.